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THE CAUSE OF THE CONFLICT.

The root of the trouble between employers of labor and the organizations called unions, is in the arbitrary endeavor on the part of the latter to prevent non-union workers from gaining a living by labor. In other words, to compel every workman to join a union, pay the dues therein demanded and place themselves under its domination. To effect this, the unions assume to dictate to contractors whom they shall or shall not employ. They use the force embodied in a "strike," if a non-union man receives employment on any particular piece of work, and they choose the most critical times to do this when the act is likely to cause the greatest damage to the contractor who is not willing to submit to their tyranny.

Is not such a course open to the strongest condemnation? Should it receive the support or countenance of the public press? Yet we find a morning contemporary apologizing for it in the following fashion: Stating that there are two points to the dispute it adds:

"The first is the claim that notice was given to the contractors in ample time, that after May 1st of this year, the rule against working with non-union men would be strictly enforced."

Second, that there is plenty of union men here to do all the work required. If the first statement is true, then the contractors should be stopped from urging their claim that they don't know what the trouble is about; for if they received that notice, and employed non-union men after the date named, they could not fail to know that such act would make discontent and cause trouble."

Speaking of the claim of the contractors that they had to employ non-union men because there was not union men enough to do the work, that paper argues:

"It is not easy to see, therefore, why there should be any prolonged or troublesome strike here. If the unions can supply all the labor needed, why not let them do so? If they can't, they ought not to retard operations by insisting on a point where the very conditions of the problem show that they have failed."

The answer to all that is, the unions have no legal or moral right to dictate to the contractors in any way whatever. And there will be a prolongation of trouble in the land, just as long as the attempts to use this kind of coercion continue. To encourage them is to aid in the wrong. The right to employ union or non-union labor is inherent in every person or company that has need of such work. To say that an employer shall not be permitted to engage such workmen as suit him best, or that no man shall be permitted to work unless he joins a certain society, is tyranny in its most obnoxious form, and it ought to be resisted and stamped out of existence.

The idea that because notice is said to have been served on contractors they were bound to stop upon it, and turn away non-union workmen in their employ is simply monstrous. And the notion that employers must engage only union workmen if there is a sufficient number of them to do the work required, and must not take on a non-union man no matter how suitable he may be, is as vile and vicious as it is absurd. Yet these are the ideas contained in the quotations we have given above.

There ought to be a concerted movement among workmen to maintain the freedom of labor. This should be aided by employers everywhere. And the press of the country will help in the perpetuation of those liberties to secure which this government was founded, by advocating the right of every workman to obtain employment where he is wanted, and of every employer to engage such help as he needs and chooses, without dictation from any man or association on the face of the globe.

Let workmen combine as closely as they please for mutual benefit and improvement, let them agree if they wish not to work more than so many hours a day, or for less than a given scale of wages; but let them stop there and refrain from using compulsion in any form, upon their fellowmen who do not of their own free will choose to join their societies or submit to their rules.

The cause of the conflict now on, here and elsewhere, is in the wrong we have indicated. If it is not corrected, the liberty of labor will exist only in name. And the coercion against which we protest, unless overcome will increase in the world, until the time spoken of in the Apocalypse will arrive, when no man can either "buy or sell," employ or be employed, do any manner of business or engage in any pursuit, unless he bears "the mark or the name of the beast," or the union brand, or some sign by which he may be known as one of the privileged. Let men unite as much as they please for their own benefit and restriction, but let the line be drawn at the limit of law and of right—where it infringes upon the rights of other people.

INTERESTING VISITORS.

It is a good thing for Utah to receive friendly visits from companies of excursionists, that take sufficient time among us to learn something of conditions in this State, and to find out that the "Mormons," about whom they have heard such terrible tales, are in many respects like other folks; that they are human beings; that they believe in God and in Christ, and that they are practical people in favor of every modern invention for the improvement of public affairs and the welfare of the state and the nation.

It is particularly gratifying and beneficial to have members of the eastern press here, when they come on pleasure bent and are ready to investigate and are not employed in gathering gabble to feed the unwholesome appetites for sensation, with which so many newspaper readers are afflicted. We ask nothing more of our journalistic visitors, than that they will speak of our people as they find them and of our faith as we hold and proclaim it.

The members of the Editorial association who have made this city a call on their way to the Yellowstone, are intelligent gentlemen and ladies, and most of them appear to be desirous of obtaining information concerning Utah and her people and her institutions. They are pleasant to look upon and associate with, and are more courteous and polite than the common run of tourists, who certainly do not usually afford object lessons in deportment or self-control in manners. The ladies and gentlemen of the editorial association whom we have met, are evidently of a superior class to that of the usual rounds of cheap-trip travelers that frequently drop down upon our city.

We hope our editorial visitors will carry away with them good impressions and pleasant memories of their brief sojourn in the "City of the Saints," and that these will be reflected in the journals which they represent. People of their kind are always welcome in Zion, and we wish them a merry trip to the end of their tour, and a safe return to home and friends and labors in the interest of humanity.

POLITICS AND RACE WAR.

It is worth while noticing that students of the conditions that are responsible for the race war that is flaming in many parts of the country, ascribe the primary cause not to hatred of race exactly, nor to a burning desire for justice, but rather to politics. Concerning the outrages in Delaware, it was said that it was the result of the gathering there of a lot of negroes, attracted by certain political schemers. Substantially the same is said of the conditions in Evansville. The Courier of that place says:

"The cause of the present reign of terror in this city can be directly traced to the vitiation of the negro for political purposes. Before election time the advertisements are sent up and down the river among the shuffling negroes stating that they can get money for their votes at Evansville. The idle, ignorant, and vicious flock here; they are colonized in saloons; they are gathered in herds the night before election, even in the custom house and the temple of justice, debauched with free beer and corrupted with free dollars, when they are properly ready to be used on election day."

These statements are vouched for by other papers. Southern newspapers also hold that the outrages are due to political causes, and they rejoice in the fact that the North can no longer point the finger of scorn at the South. There is, in all this, the lesson that if the crime of lynching had been suppressed in the South, as it ought to have been, it would in all probability not have spread as it has been doing. And this lesson must be amplified. For unless it is put an end to now, it will infect the entire body politic, and cause death. Already soldiers have been stricken with the lynching mania. In one place a mob was raised to murder a drunken man who had thrown a beer glass at another fellow, cutting his nose. Where will it end, if the mania for murder is permitted to go on without restriction? If the respective states will not, or cannot, adequately punish the mobs that quench their brutal thirst in blood, the general government should be empowered to take the matter in hand in earnest. Between trust tyranny, labor troubles, murderous mobs, destructive accidents, and burning heat, our country is sorely tried!

WALKING DELEGATE TROUBLE.

In these days of labor troubles the views of one prominent labor leader are worthy of consideration. Mr. George P. Sullivan of Derby, Conn., was formerly president of the Derby Labor Union, and prominent in politics. He speaks as a friend of union labor, and not as an enemy, and his words should have weight accordingly. He believes the walking delegate is the cause of much trouble, and that these gentlemen foment strikes for their own personal advantage. Mr. Sullivan is quoted as follows:

"Recent startling revelations have shown that the walking delegate is a detriment, not a benefit. There are cases where he has received compensation from both sides, holding the one position where this can be done. These union agents are fast giving labor a black eye and the best thing that trade unions can do is to banish the whole lot of them. The individual unions know best what they want, what is fair for them to have, and what their employers are able to grant. I never have believed in high-salaried officials. The unions cannot afford to pay big salaries to any one. They need all the money they can raise for their treasuries. In time of strikes they then have it for strike benefits and it is not as in the pockets of out-of-town officials. Committees from the locals should deal with individual strikes or grievances. These should either serve without pay for the good of the cause, or receive only the same wages that they are able to earn at their trades."

"If unions would abolish big salaries, railroad mileage, hotel bills, and innumerable other miscellaneous expenses attendant on a general headquarters a vast sum could quickly be raised. The so-called recognition of the union amounts to nothing. In my opinion it is chiefly for the benefit of the walking delegate. He uses it as a lever to widen the breach between capital and labor, foment trouble, and incidentally hold his job. When the employer asks union wages and hours

and the employer grants them, that is recognition enough. It is not necessary that a clause be inserted in the labor contract calling specifically for recognition of the union. Wages and hours constitute the fullest extent to which in justice it can be pressed. The cry of 'recognition' is simply the tool of the walking delegate with which to play his calling."

"I believe that all unions must be run on business principles. Let us rid ourselves of the 'graffers,' the walking delegates, and the high-salaried officials."

NOT FREEDOM.

It now turns out that the usage of liberty recently issued in Russia, was not intended to enlarge the rights of Russians, but to still further enfeeble their bondage. That at least, is the view taken of the matter, by a writer in the Fortnightly Review. He says:

"The phrase 'freedom of creed,' in fact did not occur at all; and the passage in its negation is the more precise and unmistakable in the manifesto. That the emperor, if he drew it at all, drew it in this form, is incontrovertible; a more Jesuitical intellect was needed to compile a paragraph which, without visible inconsistency, at once speaks of tolerance as a virtue, and declares that intolerance is the future policy of the state. The meaning of the paragraph is perfectly plain to every one familiar with the machinery by which the Russian Church, under M. Pobiedonostzoff, persecutes its foes. It means that the present law is good enough for everyone, and that the reports circulated last year in Russia, that M. Pobiedonostzoff was to be dismissed and the reign of tolerance inaugurated, are untrue. 'Undeviating observance' of existing laws may mean anything; it may mean that no law will be persecuted until 'according to law' it may even mean that the laws will be more rigorously enforced against them. The essence of religious persecution in Russia is its perfect legality. If persecution was carried on mainly by administrative acts in defiance of the law, the law's undeviating observance would imply relief. But so far from its being so, the law itself is the worst instrument of persecution. Trials of dissenters and converts so on in open court; they are reported in the newspapers; the accused are acquitted or sent to prison with a scrupulous observance of the law, and even in most cases, it must be assumed a fair trial, for acquittals are numerous. To hint, therefore, at greater freedom, and to state specifically that the law will remain unchanged, is one of those contradictions which only a dozen ministers, each with his own amendment, could be capable of."

The weather now leads people to look on the bright side of life. The Prince of Wales looked upon the Kearsage and saw that it was good. Every fisherman who goes to Snake river tells how he just snaked the trout out. Sir Thomas Lipton says he is "looking for three straight." Solar plexus or jaw? The postoffice department is continually in receipt of letters urging that it issue a mourning stamp. A serum to cure opium poison is said to have been discovered. The rumor probably is nothing but poppycock. To drink feed tea may be suicide. If so, it is the pleasantest and most popular method known of committing that crime. Regular army officers who inspected the Utah National Guard report that it lacks discipline. Possibly; but just see how full of fight it is. King Peter has just celebrated his birthday. He was justified in this, for the return of royal birthdays in Serbia is an uncertain thing. "Athletics supports morals," says Dr. W. T. Harris. The public supports athletics, so that in the end it is the people who support morals. The latest racing automobiles resemble burial caskets on wheels in appearance. It is appropriate, for death often follows in their wake. "Politics don't make a living for anyone," says Senator Hanna. The senator should tell this to the marines; the "boys" won't believe it. If any man asks you: "Is it not enough for you?" remember what Dix said about any man who attempted to haul down the American flag. Kansas was never so free from tramps as now. The demand for harvest hands is so great that they are carefully avoiding the state until the epidemic is over. Additional legislation on the subject of pure food will be sought at the coming session of Congress. But no one ever beseeches Congress for additional legislation on the subject of pure politics. A conspiracy to avenge the death of Alexander and Draga has been discovered in Belgrade. Of course the conspirators will be executed and then will come more conspiracies. It is a beautiful illustration of the too strenuous life.

"Every man who participates in the lynching or burning of a negro is a murderer pure and simple," says Mr. Justice Brewer of the U. S. Supreme Court. Then he added: "There is going to be a reaction against the atrocious crimes with which the papers have been filled. I expect that it will come soon. I cannot say what form it will take, but there will be an uprising of popular feeling against lynchings which will result in legislation, or a remedy of some other kind." Those are the right kind of sentiments, and coming from such high sources, they cannot fail to have great weight.

Less than a fortnight ago an alleged "prize-fight" was "pulled off" (such we understand to be the proper term to indicate that one took place), at the baseball grounds. It was first class in at least one particular—as a fake and a "graff." Now it is proposed to "pull off" another at the same place or at the bicycle track. It is to be under the same management and presumably of the same order. "Prize-fights" are in direct violation of the state statutes, but when to them is added a "graff" they become even worse. The thing to do is to stop them. This is the plain duty of the police and the sheriff, and we will upon them the name of the law and the law abiding people of this city to prohibit them.

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